

Though it is impossible to sort out the truth from the mass of rumors, there is a general belief here that a secret army is actively preparing a new attempt to establish an independent Katangan state after the UN army pulls out. There are fairly well authenticated stories of recruitment going on in Europe. Members are said to include Belgians (the most numerous), French, Germans, *pièdes noirs* displaced from Algeria, South Africans and Rho-

Abroad

desians. Some civilians here and in other Katangan cities are said to belong to underground units; others are training in the bush or just across the borders. They are believed to be in active contact with Moïse Tshombe, who has been in Europe for some months, apparently in good health. The secret army's plans called for a gradual groupment and concentration of forces beginning in January, on the expectation of UN withdrawal at the end of this year. Most people here are convinced that the United Nations' decision to remain in the Congo at least until June 30, 1964 was based on knowledge of the secret army's schedule.

TINDOUF

War in the Desert

The Moroccan-Algerian fighting over Tinjaub and Hassi Beida is, as usual in these cases, not so pointless as at first it seemed. The two tiny desert oases are on the caravan route—which will some day be a road or railway—between this town and the Algerian city of Colomb Béchar. Near here are rich deposits of iron ore. And Tindouf also controls the desert gateway to Mauretania, which Morocco claims. Thus this desert shooting is directly related to a developing struggle for strategic control of the communications, resources and outlets of the western Sahara. The years when Morocco was providing a protected western base for the Algerian FLN in its seven-year guerrilla war against France have dropped quickly from memory.

EDINBURGH

Barbarian Invasion

Authorities and social scientists are alike baffled by the extraordinary wave of vandalism that has engulfed Scotland this year. It covers villages and farms as well as the cities. Some of it is in effect exceedingly dangerous sabotage. Railroad signaling systems are altered; oil poured on the rails where there is a grade stops trains, tinfoil shorts out electric rails and lights; thousands of windows and light bulbs are smashed. Tame animals and birds are shot, and decorative planting ruined. Managers find the fixtures, carpets and seats of movie theaters wrecked after the day's run. Greens of golf courses are gouged. Construction workers on new buildings are often hard put to keep up with the destroyers. Churches are compelled to

keep their doors locked. The program for increasing outdoor telephone booths has been brought nearly to a stop. Cigarette butts are ground into chairs and rugs. Autos left on the street at night attract knives and hammers. Schools and cemeteries suffer continual attrition.

NAIROBI

Birth Pangs

Uhuru Day will be December 12, and big trouble is expected not long thereafter. KANU—the Kikuyu (Mau Mau)-Luo party run by Jomo Kenyatta and Tom Mboya—will take charge with the announced intention of junking the federalist constitution and instituting a centralized regime. KADU—the minority party composed of the smaller tribes—states it will then set up an independent nation of its own. The Somalis in the large northern frontier region, supported by their tribal brethren in Mogadishu, declare they will launch a war of secession as the Union Jack falls. KANU's radical youth and unemployed demand immediate expropriation of the white-owned farms in the Highlands, upon which Kenya's economy rests.

TRIPOLI

Oil for the Lamps of Europe

The oil development in Libya has been more impressive than in any region outside the Middle East opened up since the war. Because the most efficient new techniques are being used, costs are not far from the low Middle Eastern range; and the European markets are 1,800 miles closer. Nearly two dozen companies are engaged. Standard Oil of New Jersey (Esso) is far ahead, followed by



Bernie—Aux Ecoutes, Paris

Ben Roth Agency

"Any officer under the grade of captain, who wants to make a 'coup d'état,' must write a demand in a regular way!"

Oasis Oil, owned by three other U.S. companies—Amerada, Continental and Marathon. Shipments started in 1961. Production in 1962 was 7.7 million tons, and is expected to reach 23 million tons this year, 40 million in 1964. Plans are under consideration to use the associated gas—of which hundreds of millions of cubic feet are being flared off daily—for fertilizer production.

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